NORTH CAROLINA
State Board of Elections

Before the Joint Committee on Appropriations General Government

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2015

KIM STRACH & AMY STRANGE

Help America Vote Act Funds

$4.06M available in federal HAVA Title II funds remaining

$3.4M in state Maintenance of Effort Funds

SEIMS – Statewide Election Information Management System
- Originally completed in 1999
- HAVA funds used to upgrade software
- Cost to upgrade $4.4M

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SEIMS Software Features

- Manage voter registration
- Manage candidate filing
- Election contest setup
- Ballot coding
- Electronic pollbooks
- Aggregating & reporting election results
- Managing polling places & election workers
- Managing & verifying petitions
- Absentee voting
- Provisional voting

SEIMS Rewrite Project

CURRENT

13 separate server applications

13 separate logins for EACH COUNTY

Single-county access to data

FUTURE

Three applications
- One web-based integrated application
- Electronic pollbooks with real-time updates
- Election night reporting tool

One login per county

Statewide access to data

Automation of removals (felons, deaths, cancellations)

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SEIMS Upgrade Plan

Phase I Project Plan

1st RFP issued to write business requirements

Top choice vendor identified

Awaiting approval to contract

Two ITS Project Managers assigned

Deliverable - Business processes & technical requirements defined

Phase II Project Plan

2nd RFP issued for software development, testing, training & statewide rollout

Deliverable - Upgraded election management system

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VIVA Implementation – Free IDs

NC DOT

      701 IDs issued through 12/31/2014

      Reimbursement total $1,752.50

DHHS

      0 reimbursements requested

Registers of Deeds

      1 birth certificate (Alamance County)

      Reimbursement total $10

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VIVA Outreach Efforts

Billboards – 16,500,000 views based on traffic counts
- Voter registration deadline
- One-stop early voting dates

Mailings
- 218,000 letters to registered voters without a NC DMV number
- 10,800 letters w/ response cards to those who signed affidavit of no photo ID in 2014

Polling Place Signage
- Posters displayed at all polling locations
- Cards with info on obtaining free photo ID

VIVA Outreach Efforts

Public presentations

- 55 presentations with 2,800+ attendees total

NC State Fair Exhibit

- Info on voter ID
- Info on voter registration
- Early voting site lookup
- Polling place lookup
- Absentee ballot information
- Fair attendance = 930,000

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VIVA Outreach Efforts

Partnerships with interest groups to disseminate information about voter ID requirements

- Membership organizations
- Statewide associations
- Political parties
- Non-profit groups
- Civic groups
- Churches
- Fraternal organizations
- Colleges/Universities
- NC Indian tribes

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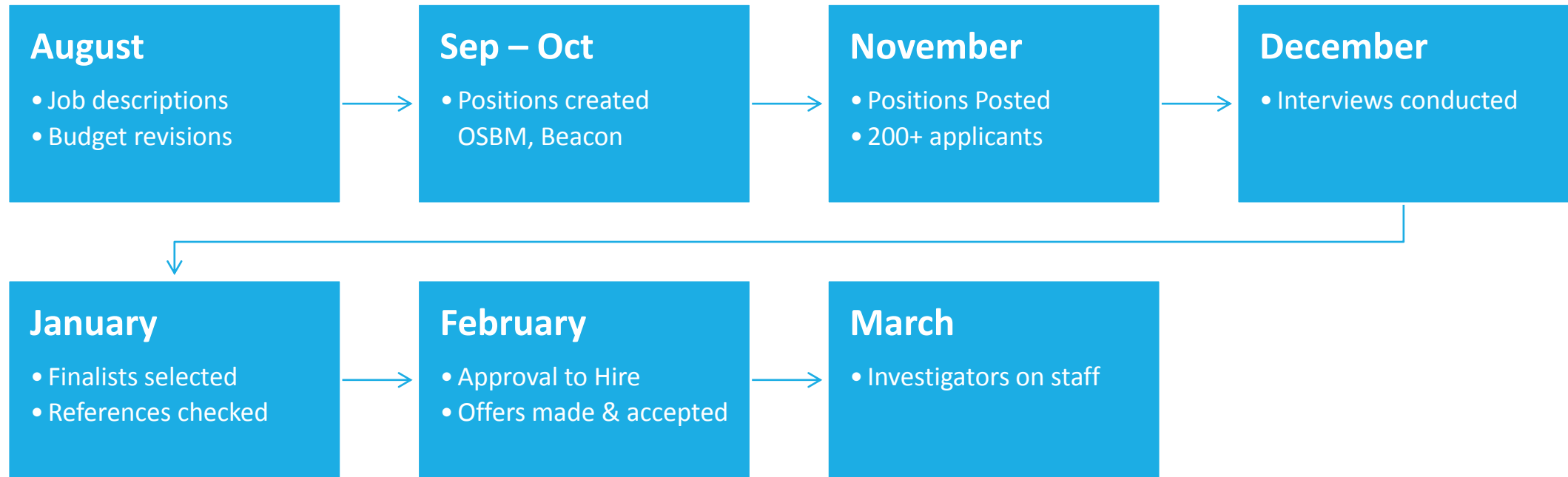# VIVA Outreach Efforts

Advertising Campaign

- RFP issued February 2015
- Television ads
- Radio ads
- Billboard ads
- Training for election workers

Ads will begin running in fall 2015

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Investigator Positions Timeline

August
- Job descriptions
- Budget revisions

Sep – Oct
- Positions created OSBM, Beacon

November
- Positions Posted
- 200+ applicants

December
- Interviews conducted

January
- Finalists selected
- References checked

February
- Approval to Hire
- Offers made & accepted

March
- Investigators on staff

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Investigative Lifecycle

Identify potential violation

Gather evidence & information

Analyze evidence

Prepare compile investigative report

Criminal violations referred

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Investigator Workload

Voter integrity investigations
- Interstate crosscheck
- Citizenship audits
- Intrastate data integrity audits
- Complaints

Campaign Finance investigations
- Audits
- Complaints/inquiries

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Decertification of DRE Voting Systems

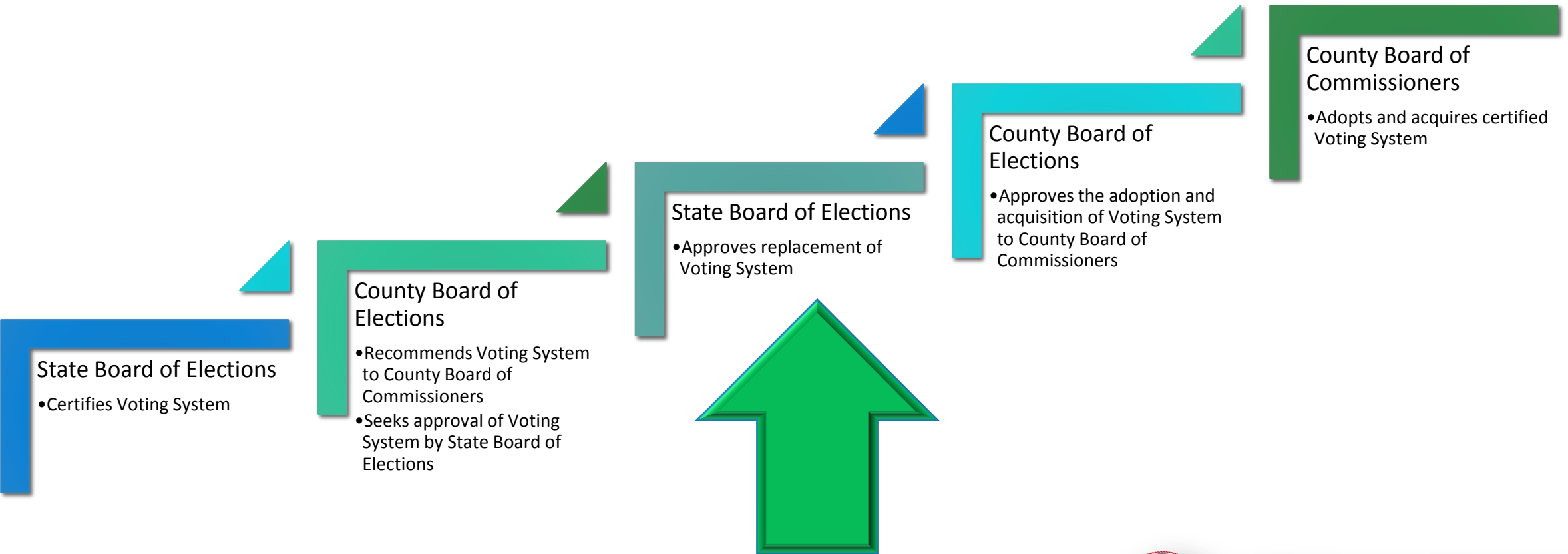SESSION LAW 2013-381

HOUSE BILL 589

SECTION 30.8. Any direct record electronic (DRE) voting systems currently certified by the State Board of Elections which do not use paper ballots shall be decertified and shall not be used in any election held on or after January 1, 2018. Decertification of a DRE voting system that does not use paper ballots may not be appealed to the Superior Court of Wake County pursuant to G.S. 163-165.7(b).

SECTION 30.9. This Part becomes effective January 1, 2018.

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Overview of Acquisition of Voting System

State Board of Elections
- Certifies Voting System

County Board of Elections
- Recommends Voting System to County Board of Commissioners
- Seeks approval of Voting System by State Board of Elections

State Board of Elections
- Approves replacement of Voting System

County Board of Elections
- Approves the adoption and acquisition of Voting System to County Board of Commissioners

County Board of Commissioners
- Adopts and acquires certified Voting System

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Campaign Finance E-filing Software

$671,893 non-recurring appropriation in S.L. 2010-0123, sec. 2.2(1)

$350,000 non-recurring appropriation in S.L. 2010-0123, sec. 11.18

Paid vendor in August 2011.

No clearly-defined deliverables and deadlines.

Renegotiation attempted in summer 2013 with assistance of AG's office. No agreement reached.

Current system now 13 years old.

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Campaign Finance E-filing Software

2014 – Partnered with ITS
- Business Requirements Unit
- Project Manager assigned

Web-based tool
- Works on all operating systems
- Reminders when report deadlines approaching and if deadlines missed
- Instant notification of successful submission
- No import delays